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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/670,787	09/26/2003	Seung Jun Han	8733.953.00	4358

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EXAMINER	
HAN, JASON	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2875	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/670,787	HAN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	JASON M. HAN	2875	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *23 July 2009*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-9* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-9* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *26 September 2003* is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on July 23, 2009 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed July 23, 2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. At present, the prior art to Van Duijenveldt (U.S. Patent 5,975,722 A) remains commensurate to the scope of the claims as stated by the Applicant within the context of the claim language and as broadly interpreted by the Examiner [MPEP 2111], which is elucidated and expounded upon below.

3. In response to Applicant's argument with respect to the low and high voltages of the AC voltage being "directly and in common" applied to the plurality of low and high voltage electrodes respectively, it remains clear that Van Duijenveldt teaches both the low [Figures 1A-B: (b)] and high [Figures 1A-B: (a)] voltages of the AC voltage [Figures 1A0B: (8, 9)] being directly and in common [note that the electrodes are provided with either (a) or (b)] applied to the plurality of low and high voltage electrodes respectively.

4. In response to Applicant's argument with respect to the one power source (AC voltage), there is no such structural limitation(s) within the claim language, nor support found within the Drawings or Specification for such.

5. In response to Applicant's argument with respect to the N-number adjacent to one another, it should be noted that adjacent is a broad and relative term, which has been interpreted to mean "lying near, close, or contiguous; adjoining, neighboring"[1].

6. Overall, there is still insufficient context within the claim language distinguishing itself over the prior art.

Drawings

7. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the low and high voltages of the AC voltage being directly and in common applied to the plurality of low and high voltage electrodes respectively must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate

changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

8. Claim 9 is objected to because of the following informalities: "the N-number" in lines 8-10 lack antecedent basis. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

9. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

10. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

11. With regard to Independent Claims 1, 5, 8, and 9, there is neither support nor disclosure within the Specification or Drawings teaching the low and high voltages of the

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[1] "adjacent." *Dictionary.com Unabridged.* Random House, Inc. 02 Oct. 2009. <Dictionary.com

AC voltage being directly and in common applied to the plurality of low and high voltage electrodes respectively.

12. Claims 2-4 and 6-7 depend on the above claims, and are thus rejected under the same. At present, the best-deemed interpretation and prior art rejection has been applied below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

13. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

14. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Van Duijneveldt (U.S. Patent 5,975,722 A).

15. With regards to Claim 1, Van Duijneveldt discloses a backlight unit including:

- A lamp housing [Figures 1A-B: (6)] having a first side and a second side opposite the first side; and
- A plurality of lamps [Figures 1A-B: (4^n, 5^n)] respectively having a low voltage electrode [Figure 1A: (b)] and a high voltage electrode [Figure 1A: (a)] each at opposite ends of the lamp, the lamps arranged substantially parallel in the lamp housing,
- Wherein the plurality of low voltage electrodes of odd-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (5^n)] are disposed at the first side [e.g., Figures 1A-B: (b)

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http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/adjacent>.

connected to (9)] and the plurality of high voltage electrodes of odd-numbered lamps are disposed at the second side [e.g., Figures 1A-B: (a) connected to (9)],

- Wherein the plurality of high voltage electrodes of even-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (4^n)] are disposed at the first side [e.g., Figures 1A-B: (a) connected to (8)] and the plurality of low voltage electrodes of even-numbered lamps are disposed at the second side [e.g., Figures 1A-B: (b) connected to (8)],
- Wherein a low voltage of an AC voltage is directly and in common applied to the plurality of low voltage electrodes of odd-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (b, 9)] at the first side and the plurality of low voltage electrodes of even-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (b, 8)] at the second side, and
- Wherein a high voltage of the AC voltage is directly and in common applied to the plurality of high voltage electrodes of even-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (a, 8)] at the first side and the plurality of high voltage electrodes of odd-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (a, 9)] at the second side.

16. With regards to Claim 2, Van Duijneveldt discloses the backlight unit further incorporating a diffusion plate [Figures 1A-B, 5: (7, 47)] located on the lamp housing [Figures 1A-B: (6, 46)]; and an optical sheet [Figure 5: (53, 51)] located on the diffusion plate.

17. With regards to Claim 3, Van Duijneveldt discloses the plurality of low voltage electrodes [Figure 1A: (b)] and the plurality of high voltage electrodes [Figure 1A: (a)] of the lamps are respectively arranged in zigzag fashion.

18. With regards to Claim 4, Van Duijneveldt discloses the plurality of low voltage electrodes [Figure 1A: (b)] and the plurality of high voltage [Figures 1A: (a)] electrodes of the lamps being alternately arranged by a number greater than 2.

19. Claims 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Van Duijneveldt (U.S. Patent 5,975,722 A).

20. With regards to Claim 5, Van Duijneveldt discloses a liquid crystal display including:

- A back light unit including:
  - A lamp housing [Figures 1A-B, 5: (6, 46)] having a first side and a second side opposite the first side;
  - A plurality of lamps [Figures 1A-B, 5: (4^n, 5^n, 44^n, 45^n)] respectively having a low voltage electrode [Figures 1A-B: (b)] and a high voltage electrode [Figures 1A-B: (b)] each at opposite ends of the lamp and arranged substantially parallel in the lamp housing; and
- A liquid crystal panel [Figure 5: (51)] disposed on the back light unit and having a plurality of liquid crystal cells arranged in matrix form,
- Wherein the plurality of low voltage electrodes of odd-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (5^n)] are disposed at the first side [e.g., Figures 1A-B: (b) connected to (9)] and the plurality of high voltage electrodes of odd-numbered

lamps are disposed at the second side [e.g., Figures 1A-B: (a) connected to (9)],

- Wherein the plurality of high voltage electrodes of even-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (4^n)] are disposed at the first side [e.g., Figures 1A-B: (a) connected to (8)] and the plurality of low voltage electrodes of even-numbered lamps are disposed at the second side [e.g., Figures 1A-B: (b) connected to (8)],
- Wherein a low voltage of an AC voltage is directly and in common applied to the plurality of low voltage electrodes of odd-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (b, 9)] at the first side and the plurality of low voltage electrodes of even-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (b, 8)] at the second side, and
- Wherein a high voltage of the AC voltage is directly and in common applied to the plurality of high voltage electrodes of even-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (a, 8)] at the first side and the plurality of high voltage electrodes of odd-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (a, 9)] at the second side.

21. With regards to Claim 6, Van Duijneveldt discloses the plurality of low voltage electrodes [Figure 1A: (b)] and the plurality of high voltage electrodes [Figure 1A: (a)] of the lamps are respectively arranged in zigzag fashion.

22. With regards to Claim 7, Van Duijneveldt discloses the plurality of low voltage electrodes [Figure 1A: (b)] and the plurality of high voltage electrodes [Figures 1A: (a)] of the lamps being alternately arranged by a number greater than 2.

23. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Van Duijneveldt (U.S. Patent 5,975,722 A).

24. With regards to Claim 8, Van Duijneveldt discloses a backlight unit including:

- A lamp housing [Figures 1A-B: (6)] having a first side and a second side opposite the first side; and
- A plurality of lamps [Figures 1A-B: (4^n, 5^n)] respectively having a low voltage electrode [Figure 1A: (b)] and a high voltage electrode [Figure 1A: (a)] each at opposite ends of the lamp, the lamps arranged substantially parallel in the lamp housing,
- Wherein the lamps have odd-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (5^n)] with N-number adjacent to one another (where N is a positive integer more than 2) and even-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (4^n)] with N-number adjacent to one another (where N is a positive integer more than 2) alternately arranged,
- Wherein the plurality of low voltage electrodes of odd-numbered lamps with the N-number are disposed at the first side [e.g., Figures 1A-B: (b) connected to (9)] and the plurality of high voltage electrodes of odd-numbered lamps with the N-number are disposed at the second side [e.g., Figures 1A-B: (a) connected to (9)],
- Wherein the plurality of high voltage electrodes of even-numbered lamps with the N-number are disposed at the first side [e.g., Figures 1A-B: (a) connected to (8)] and the plurality of low voltage electrodes of even-numbered lamps

with the N-number are disposed at the second side [e.g., Figures 1A-B: (b) connected to (8)],

- Wherein a low voltage of an AC voltage is directly and in common applied to the plurality of low voltage electrodes of odd-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (b, 9)] with the N-number at the first side and the plurality of low voltage electrodes of even-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (b, 8)] with the N-number at the second side, and
- Wherein a high voltage of the AC voltage is directly and in common applied to the plurality of high voltage electrodes of even-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (a, 8)] with the N-number at the first side and the plurality of high voltage electrodes of odd-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (a, 9)] with the N-number at the second side.

25. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Van Duijneveldt (U.S. Patent 5,975,722 A).

26. With regards to Claim 9, Van Duijneveldt discloses a liquid crystal display including:

- A back light unit including:
  - = A lamp housing [Figures 1A-B, 5: (6, 46)] having a first side and a second side opposite the first side;
  - = A plurality of lamps [Figures 1A-B, 5: (4^n, 5^n, 44^n, 45^n)] respectively having a low voltage electrode [Figures 1A-B: (b)] and a high voltage

electrode [Figures 1A-B: (b)] each at opposite ends of the lamp and arranged substantially parallel in the lamp housing; and

- A liquid crystal panel [Figure 5: (51)] disposed on the back light unit and having a plurality of liquid crystal cells arranged in matrix form,
- Wherein the lamps have odd-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (5^n)] with an N-number adjacent to one another (where N is a positive integer more than 2) and even-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (4^n)] with an N-number adjacent to one another (where N is a positive integer more than 2) alternately arranged,
- Wherein the plurality of low voltage electrodes of odd-numbered lamps with the N-number are disposed at the first side [e.g., Figures 1A-B: (b) connected to (9)] and the plurality of high voltage electrodes of odd-numbered lamps with the N-number are disposed at the second side [e.g., Figures 1A-B: (a) connected to (9)],
- Wherein the plurality of high voltage electrodes of even-numbered lamps with the N-number are disposed at the first side [e.g., Figures 1A-B: (a) connected to (8)] and the plurality of low voltage electrodes of even-numbered lamps with the N-number are disposed at the second side [e.g., Figures 1A-B: (b) connected to (8)],
- Wherein a low voltage of an AC voltage is directly and in common applied to the plurality of low voltage electrodes of odd-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (b, 9)] with the N-number at the first side and the plurality of low voltage

electrodes of even-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (b, 8)] with the N-number at the second side, and

- Wherein a high voltage of the AC voltage is directly and in common applied to the plurality of high voltage electrodes of even-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (a, 8)] with the N-number at the first side and the plurality of high voltage electrodes of odd-numbered lamps [Figures 1A-B: (a, 9)] with the N-number at the second side.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JASON M. HAN whose telephone number is (571)272-2207. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jason M Han/
Friday, October 02, 2009

Jason M Han
Examiner
Art Unit 2875